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COUNTRY

Hungary

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REPORT NO.

TOPIC

1. Hungarian Border Guard Battalion in Koeszeg 2. Draft Categories

3. Soviet Troops in Koeszeg

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EVALUATION

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PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

prior to March 1951

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PAGES

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ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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Hungarian Border Guard Battalion in Koeszeg.

1. Prior to 9 March 1951, the Jurisics Var Barracks in Koeszeg (P 48/X 60) housed the headquarters and the reserve company of an unidentified border guard battalion.

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2. Officers of the border guard battalion included Captain Janos Szabo, political officer; Senior Lieutenant Dr. Otto Paszthy, medical officer; and Junior Lieutenant Lajos Kocsis, investigation officer. The battalion commander, a major, had succeeded a lieutenant colonel at the end of 1950.

3. Border guard detachments of the battalion were located in the former Eisner Villa in Koeszeg, in Velem (P 48/C 59), Bozsok (P 48/C 69), Hetforras and Hermannforras. No other Hungarian troop units were stationed in Koeszeg.

Draft Categories.

4. [ ] all draftees classified "fit for service" were issued service record books bearing the qualification code letters Ka and Ks. The unfit were issued a certificate of deferment, bearing the code letters Jan and An. The service record books and the certificates of deferment were to be produced, together with the certificate of registration with the police, whenever checks of identity papers were made. None of these documents were issued to civilian physicians who were automatically registered with the draft boards.

Soviet Troops in Koeszeg .

5. Prior to 9 March 1951, residents of Koeszeg (P 48/X 60) estimated the Soviet troops in town at 2,000 to 3,000 and referred to them as artillerymen. All troops observed wore red-bordered black epaulets.
6. The following installations were occupied by Soviet troops:
  - a. Military post headquarters on Kossuth Lajos Street.

CLASSIFICATION

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- b. Former Frigyes Barracks, with 80 to 100 trucks on blocks and four or five track-laying vehicles parked in the meadows between the installation and Gyöngyös Brook west of the installation.
- c. Former cadet school, with 8 to 10 AA guns with barrels 2 to 3 meters long and muzzle brakes in the yard.
- d. Former Dreiszker Sanatorium on Kalvaria Street, where troops with heavy Maxim machine guns and 100-mm to 120-mm mortars were seen in late February 1951.
- e. Strucc Hotel and Widemann Cafe, housing a Soviet officers' mess and a Soviet motion picture theater respectively. \*\*

\* Comment. [redacted] the 7th Border Guard Battalion in Keszeg, the headquarters and training company of which were last identified there in August 1950. [redacted] The reserve company mentioned in the present report is probably the training company.

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\*\* Comment. On the basis of previous information, it is believed that the components of the 17th Gds Mecz Div which are stationed in Keszeg include the mortar regiment, possibly the 56th; the 2501st AAA Regt; and the unidentified rocket launcher battalion. These units are partially confirmed by the present report and substantiate the local residents' statement on the presence of Soviet artillerymen.

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